Meeting of the Innovate UK Council
Wednesday 16th June, 2021

Summary of meeting

The Chair welcomed Council members to the meeting, which was deemed quorate. The minutes of the previous meeting, held on May 4th were, deemed accurate and approved.

Operational Update

The Innovate UK senior leadership team presented highlights from each respective area, which showed developments since the last Council meeting. Plans for a new dashboard were discussed. Council stressed the need to ensure that KPI's in the new dashboard link to the key themes for easy understanding of spend against outcomes.

Innovate UK’s CEO gave an update based on his impressions so far. He outlined the massive potential the organisation has to do brilliant things in the economy and our for our society. Council were shown the Innovate UK - Accelerating innovation in response to Covid-19 video.

UKRI update

Council were given a brief update from the last UKRI board meeting which focussed on trusted research, the innovation strategy, allocations and looking forward to the future spending review.

Strategic themes

BEIS Innovation Strategy/CSR

Council were joined by Shahid Omer, BEIS Deputy Director, Innovation Strategy, who described the developing BEIS Innovation Strategy. He explained the enabling business environment which the strategy intends to create, placing Innovate UK centrally with the mandate and platform the enable HMG’s vision for innovation.

ISCF update

An update on the challenge fund in the context of how challenges relate to the innovation strategy themes being considered was presented. Council agreed that the challenges provide very strong foundations for the innovation strategy themes previously discussed.

Council were keen that the successes of the challenge fund were communicated well both within the UK but also internationally.
Plans for future Council meetings

Council appreciated the revised format of the Council meetings. Discussions between Council members and the CEO will take place over the summer months.

Closed Council session

A closed session was held initially with the CEO and then for Council members only.

The formal minutes of this meeting will be approved at the Innovate UK Council meeting on September 8th 2021.